

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on June 28, 2016 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson  
Mark Raymond, Clerk  
Daniel Bucknam, Alternate  
Damien Cregeau, Alternate

Members Absent: Jennifer Wolf  
Chris Lyons  
John Aforismo, Alternate

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Raymond read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on June 16, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4507-16.** Kathleen Ahern Williams seeks to construct a 16'x36' in ground pool with a 5'6" black aluminum fence to enclose the rear yard in the style "Montague" with arched gates at 15 Hartford Avenue. (Left open at the June 14, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is July 12, 2016.)

Application was withdrawn by applicant via phone message on June 28, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4511-16.** Victoria Oliveira seeks to construct a 6' privacy fence to enclose the rear yard which shall be Azek or similar composite materials with gates at 72 Hartford Avenue. (Left open at the June 14, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is July 26, 2016.)

Victoria Oliveira, 72 Hartford Avenue, and Tony Guerrera, 194 Catherine Drive, Rocky Hill, appeared before the Commission. Plans were submitted. The plan has 32' of fence now, but if the site line is an issue, they will reduce it to 22' of fence and more trees. They would like to construct a 6' privacy fence with a 10-12' wide gate and a 4' wide gate back towards the garage. The gates will match the fence. The fence will be white and will have a matte finish. They have planted arbor vitae around the border. Samples of the PVC fencing were provided. An additional option for the fence in the color Sandtone was presented.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Cindy Hughes, 14 Meggat Park, spoke in favor of the application.

John Maycock, 13 Meggat Park, spoke against the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone else wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4513-16.** Michael and Genevieve Doody seek to construct a 6' wood privacy fence along a portion of the property line at 336 Main Street.

Michael Doody, 336 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. A plot plan was submitted. They would like to construct a 6' wood privacy fence on the southeast corner along the property line that will run down and next to the neighbor's barn. It will connect to an existing fence. There will be no gate. They will use 6' wood stockade fence with 8' panels and a notched top. The good side of the fence will face out.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4514-16.** Renewal by Andersen seeks to replace the existing patio door with a clad wood 200 Series Perma-Shield gliding patio door at 36 Towne House Lane.

Applicant not present. This has a limited public view. They will be replacing an existing patio door on the rear with a clad wood 200 Series Perma-Shield gliding patio door. The exterior is dark bronze.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4515-16.** Michael Rell seeks to replace an existing basement window on the north side of the house with a vinyl Mercury Excelum hopper window at 57 Broad Street.

Kristin Stearley, 505 Silas Deane Highway, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace one basement window that is recessed on the driveway side. It is currently a hopper style single paned wood window. They would like to replace it with a vinyl hopper style window in the color white that will replicate the existing light pattern.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4516-16.** Mavis Murphy seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4506-16 to change the fence material at the rear property line from 4' wood picket to 4' black chain link fencing at 261 Garden Street.

Mavis Murphy, 261 Garden Street, appeared before the Commission. She would like to change the fence at the rear property line from 4' wood picket to 4' black chain link. Photos were submitted.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Cindy Hughes, 14 Meggat Park, spoke in favor of the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Ovian, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications, withdrawing 4507, and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4511-16.** Victoria Oliveira seeks to construct a 6' privacy fence to enclose the rear yard which shall be Azek or similar composite materials with gates at 72 Hartford Avenue. (Left open at the June 14, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is July 26, 2016.)

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that there is a big difference with the matte finish composite material and a vinyl fence. He wouldn't be in favor of this fence all the way around the property, but he is comfortable with this product because of its limited usage.

Commissioner Ovian stated that he is very conscious of the types of fences in the District. The synthetic fencing is becoming popular. Some of the synthetic fences work, but it depends on the property. All applications are taken on a case by case basis. This is the only new construction house of recent vintage on Meggat Park. It's a new house with vinyl siding and having a white fence of similar material is more consistent with the building than most other materials.

Commissioner Raymond asked that if they approve this application, how do they go about approving or limiting additional sections of fence?

Commissioner Bucknam asked if they are reluctantly approving vinyl on houses in the District? They are losing more and more wood in the District. He doesn't think the fence will look anything like wood. In light of having a dissenting member of the public coming forward to speak on the issue, they should respect that.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian

Nay: Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4513-16.** Michael and Genevieve Doody seek to construct a 6' wood privacy fence along a portion of the property line at 336 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey seconded by Commissioner Bucknam and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that this is one of the most loved properties in Old Wetherfield. It's a beautiful property. This will have a minimal impact on the District.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4514-16.** Renewal by Andersen seeks to replace the existing patio door with a clad wood 200 Series Perma-Shield gliding patio door at 36 Towne House Lane.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that they need additional information.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4515-16.** Michael Rell seeks to replace an existing basement window on the north side of the house with a vinyl Mercury Excelum hopper window at 57 Broad Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Cregeau and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that this has very minimal impact on the District.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4516-16.** Mavis Murphy seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4506-16 to change the fence material at the rear property line from 4' wood picket to 4' black chain link fencing at 261 Garden Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that in this location, he understands the desire for the chain link. You will really see the wood fence on the sides.

Commissioner Ovian stated that the house may be vinyl, but it evokes a house of an earlier time.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Ovian, Bucknam, Cregeau

**MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2016**

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond

**PRE-APPLICATION HEARING**

Victoria Oliveira, 72 Hartford Avenue, discussed materials and possible designs for a wooden chicken coop. They currently have a temporary coop in the backyard made of chain link.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Public Comments on General Matters of the Historic District**

John Maycock, 13 Meggat Park, voiced concerns over the discussion of fencing materials and reminded the Commission that they are not supposed to take shrubbery into consideration.

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:38 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Bucknam, Cregeau

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mark Raymond  
- Clerk -